

## ABSTRACT

A furnace (22) for heating a preform (10), includes an upper longitudinal heating tunnel (24) bounded transversely by the longitudinal vertical internal faces (36, 38) of two walls (40, 42), one wall (40), being equipped with a heating system (46), and the other wall (42), having aeration orifices (50) intended to let the air blown by a blower (52) pass transversely through them, and in which one portion (16) of the preform (10) is held outside the heating tunnel (24), a blower (52) blowing air transversely towards the portion (16) of the preform (10) so as to keep the constituent material of this portion (16) of the preform (10) at a temperature below its softening point, characterized in that the blower (52) includes two independent fans (54a, 54b) that deliver air to the aerated wall (42) and to the portion (16) of the preform (10), respectively.